

# HERITAGE COMMISSION

## Draft Minutes

*February 5, 2009*

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting in the City Council Chambers at 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, February 5, 2009, at 4:30 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates:

Chairperson Donovan called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Chairperson Philip Donovan, James McConaha, Vice Chair Frederick Richards, Carol Durgy Brooks, Robert Johnson, and Bryant Tolles, who arrived at 4:47 p.m. City Planner Douglas Woodward and Administrative Specialist Donna Muir were also present.

Absent from the meeting was Dr. Douglas Black, Gerard Blanchette, Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, and Marilyn Fraser.

Chairperson Donovan elevated the alternate members to full member status for the meeting.

### 2. Minutes of January 8, 2009:

The Commission considered the minutes of the January 8, 2009 Heritage Commission meeting. Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Ms. Brooks seconded the motion. Chairperson Donovan asked if there was any discussion regarding the minutes. There was no other discussion. The motion to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2009 meeting passed unanimously.

### 3. New Business:

The Commission considered an application for a discretionary or “barn preservation” easement at 14 Shawmut Street, from Susanne Smith Meyer, who was unable to be in attendance at the meeting. Kathryn Temchack, the Director of Real Estate Assessment for the City of Concord was present.

After Ms. Temchack provided a brief introduction of the easement request, Mr. McConaha stated that he didn’t believe that the barn was used for agricultural purposes, but instead was used to house horses. Mr. Johnson stated that he is very familiar with the house and that it was either the second or third house built in East Concord, and that all the land in the area during the period the barn was built was agricultural lands. Mr. Johnson made a motion recommending that the applicant address the issue of whether the barn had been used for agricultural purposes and present this additional information to the Heritage Commission at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Richards. Chairman Donovan stated that he felt it was the right thing to do, especially because the applicant was unable to attend the meeting. He asked if there was any

further discussion regarding the motion. There was no discussion. The motion to recommend that the applicant provide additional information regarding the agricultural use of the land was passed unanimously.

[Kathryn Temchack left the meeting at 4:58 p.m.]

4. Old Business:

- a. Heritage Sign Program: A revised, but incomplete sign application was submitted and circulated to the Sign Committee for review. The Sign Committee will report back to the Commission when the application and review process is complete.
- b. Isaac Hill Monument: Mr. Johnson stated that he is still researching information pertaining to the Isaac Hill monument. He presented some historical information regarding the first house owned by Governor Hill opposite the corner of School and North Main Streets and had found additional information which stated that in 1833 the Hill's were planning to build a brick mansion at what was then 75 South Main Street. Mr. Johnson stated that he would continue his research. Mr. McConaha stated that the monument is still at the Loudon Road site and that he has found out that Perry Brothers Monuments close during the winter months, so that the monument would not be moved until sometime in the spring.
- c. Historic Agricultural Resources Forum: Chairman Donovan stated that Ms. Hengen, although unable to be in attendance at the meeting, sent him an email outlining items that still needed attention for the Historic Agricultural Resources Forum. The forum is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers. Ms. Hengen was looking for volunteers from the Heritage Commission for the following:

Invitations to barn and property owners – Chairman Donovan volunteered to mail the invitations;

Poster announcing the forum – Mr. Woodward volunteered that the Planning Division would be able to produce posters; and,

Heritage Commission Sign Program information – Ms. Brooks, Mr. Richards, and Chairman Donovan volunteered to have information available and to also have the sample sign board available at the forum.

Mr. Woodward stated that he had been in touch with CCTV and they will be able to both broadcast live and videotape the forum with a ground-mounted camera. The videotaping will allow for the program to air on CCTV in the future.

Mr. Johnson said that he would talk with Ms. Hengen about having posters made up resembling the “Steeple of Concord” poster for future use.

- d. Stone Watering Troughs: Chairman Donovan asked about the status of the watering troughs on North State Street. Mr. Woodward stated that he believed the City's Engineering Division was aware of the Heritage Commission's wish to preserve the troughs and that the troughs would be moved when the work on the Fisherville Road / North State Street Corridor is being done. There were some questions as to whether the Heritage Commission wanted to keep both of the troughs and whether the troughs would stay where they were.
- e. Upcoming Conferences: Mr. Richards stated that the Community Development Finance Authority's Conference on *Successful Funding Strategies for Historic Building Redevelopment* was sold out.
- f. Budget: Mr. Woodward informed the members of the Heritage Commission that he was working on the Commission's budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The items that would be included in the budget were similar to those in past years including memberships in various organizations and funds for legal notices required if the Commission amends any of the rules governing the Heritage Commission.
- g. Certified Local Government Grants: Mr. Richards said that he would look into the application deadlines for applying for Certified Local Government grants. He was also going to check with the state Department of Historical Resources regarding funding for possible projects from the upcoming stimulus package. He would speak with Chairman Donovan, Ms. Hengen, and Mr. Hawk to brainstorm some projects, such as furthering the agricultural barn survey and other things that are part of the Master Plan, which could be discussed at the next Heritage Commission meeting.

There was no further business or discussion. Ms. Brooks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Donna Muir  
Administrative Specialist  
Planning Division